

U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 10/711,944
Response dated October 19, 2006
Reply to OA of August 23, 2006

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

Claim 1 (Original): A disk device, comprising:

a tray having a flat surface portion on which a disk-shaped recording medium is substantially set;

a cover which substantially covers the flat surface portion to define a housing space for housing the disk-shaped recording medium;

a rotation drive section for rotating the disk-shaped recording medium; and

a data processing unit for recording data on the disk-shaped recording medium or reading data recorded thereon,

wherein the tray has an opening for allowing the data processing unit to move along a recording surface of the disk-shaped recording medium,

wherein the opening includes an inner opening located inside the flat surface portion and an outer opening located outside the flat surface portion, and

wherein the cover includes a cover section, which covers the outer opening at an interval smaller than the interval at which the cover covers the inner opening.

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Claim 2 (Original): The disk device according to claim 1, wherein the cover section covers the outer opening in proximity to a surface of the tray.

Claim 3 (Currently Amended): The disk device according to claim 1, wherein the data processing unit has a pickup for optically recording data on the disk-shaped recording medium or reading data recorded on the disk-shaped recording medium, and wherein the outer opening is an opening, which allows the pickup to move without contacting the tray even when the pickup is positioned in the vicinity of an outer periphery of the disk-shaped recording medium.

Claim 4 (Original): The disk device according to claim 1, wherein the cover is formed by press work of a metal plate such that the cover section projects substantially in the form of a tongue.

Claim 5 (Original): A disk device, comprising:
a tray having a flat surface portion on which a disk-shaped recording medium is substantially set;
a cover which substantially covers the flat surface portion to define a housing space for housing the disk-shaped recording medium;
a rotation drive section for rotating the disk-shaped recording medium; and

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a data processing unit for recording data on the disk-shaped recording medium or reading data recorded thereon,

wherein the tray has an opening for allowing the data processing unit to move along a recording surface of the disk-shaped recording medium,

wherein the opening includes an inner opening located inside the flat surface portion and an outer opening located outside the flat surface portion, and

wherein the cover includes a projection projecting from a surface thereof opposing the disk-shaped recording medium housed in the housing space, the end of the projection opposing at least a part of an outer circumferential edge of the disk-shaped recording medium.

Claim 6 (Original): The disk device according to claim 5, wherein a plurality of the projections are provided in positions which are point-symmetrical about the center of the disk-shaped recording medium housed in the housing space.

Claim 7 (Original): The disk device according to claim 5, wherein a line connecting the projections to each other extends across the direction in which the opening expends.

Claim 8 (Original): The disk device according to claim 5, wherein the projection is bulged integrally on the surface of the cover opposing the disk-shaped recording medium.

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Claim 9 (Original): The disk device according to claim 1, wherein the cover is a support member for supporting one of a pair of clamping sections of the rotation drive section which clamps the disk-shaped recording medium in the axial direction thereof.

Claim 10 (Original): The disk device according to claim 5, wherein the cover is a support member for supporting one of a pair of clamping sections of the rotation drive section which clamps the disk-shaped recording medium in the axial direction thereof.